



VOL. VII.

BENTON, MISSOURI, SEPTEMBER 1, 1894.

NO. 32

## A FATAL FEUD,

Ends in an Unfortunate Tragedy.

### FRANK LAYTON KILLED.

Wm. Spaulding, Jr., Held for the Grand Jury. The Inquest.

On Friday evening of last week a most unfortunate affray took place at the residence of Mrs. Ella Cannon, widow of the late Matt Cannon, two miles southeast of Benton, which resulted in the death of Frank Layton, a brother of Mrs. Cannon.

Boarding with Mrs. Cannon was Wm. Spaulding, Jr. Between him and the deceased Mr. Cannon had existed for some time, and this state of matters culminated in the tragedy of last Friday.

That day Frank and George Layton, accompanied by Ed. Hagan and Thos. Bradshaw, drove to Mrs. Cannon's place, where Spaulding and Wm. Burroughs were working at the repairing of the porch. The events which immediately ensued are told in the subjoined synopsis of evidence given at the coroner's inquest. After the fatal fight, the deceased was able to accompany his party to a neighboring fishing ground, apparently only slightly hurt, but there paralysis set in, followed by unconsciousness, and in an unconscious condition Layton was driven to the house of his brother, George, where he lingered until 5 o'clock Saturday morning, attended by Dr. Butler, but beyond all medical skill.

#### THE INQUEST.

Coroner Lambert summoned a jury and subpoenaed the witnesses, and, accompanied by Drs. Freeling, Butler and Wade and a Newsboy representative, went to the Layton home, where a surgical examination took place and the following testimony was presented:

The medical testimony of Drs. Butler and Freeling, who made the post mortem examination of the body immediately prior to the inquest, went to show that death had resulted from hemorrhage on the brain such as might have been caused by the blow of a blunt instrument.

The testimony of George Layton, brother of the deceased, Thos. Bradshaw and Edward Hagan was to the effect they went to Mrs. Cannon's house that day and there was some talk between Mrs. Cannon and Geo. Layton about some gossip over money troubles between them. That Frank had taken part in the conversation and accused Mrs. Cannon and Spaulding of making fun of him. That Frank called Spaulding foul names. That Spaulding told him to take the names back. That he picked up a hatchet and again demanded of Frank that he take back the names. That Frank went toward the pump but still with his face toward Spaulding. That he told Spaulding that if he would come out in the road he would fight him. That he seemed to be about to take a drink, and, according to Bradshaw, took hold of the pump handle with his left hand, that while his face was turned from Spaulding the latter struck him the fatal blow or blows. That Spaulding then went in the house and called for a gun to shoot Layton with. That deceased then left and with his brother, Bradshaw and Hagan drove off. That at first Frank did not think himself much hurt, but soon collapsed and became paralyzed and unconscious, in which state he continued until the end.

The testimony of Mrs. Cannon and Wm. Burroughs was to the effect that Spaulding and Burroughs were at work on Mrs. Cannon's porch when the Layton brothers, Hagan and Bradshaw drove up. That a little back from the house they stopped and George took off his coat. That on coming to the house some conversation was held between Mrs. Cannon and George about a certain note. That George accused Burroughs of telling lies on him. That Mrs. Cannon ordered them to make no fuss at her house. That Frank came in at the gate calling Spaulding foul names and saying he had been run over long enough. That both Mrs.

Cannon and Spaulding ordered Frank to leave, but that he still repeated his abusive words. That Spaulding picked up a hatchet and asked Frank to take back his words. That Frank stooped to pick up a brick-bat and that it was then that Spaulding hit him. That after the first blow Frank made a second attempt to get a brick-bat. That Frank did not try to get a drink and did not take hold of the pump handle. That the Laytons came there in an ugly and violent manner. That Burroughs heard Frank threaten to "stamp Spaulding's heart out" some time before the tragedy. That Spaulding knew that the Laytons were his enemies.

#### THE PRELIMINARY TRIAL.

Spaulding, who had made no effort to escape, had been put under \$1,000 bonds by Squire Schoen to appear for examination on Monday. On that day a continuance was granted until Tuesday, when Prosecuting Attorney Moore represented the State and the defense was represented by Messrs. De Reig, Hunter and Elliott. Only the evidence for the State was taken, and it was essentially as given at the inquest. The defense, however, elicited from Bradshaw that the Laytons had told him and others that as soon as they had money enough ahead to pay a fine, it was their intention to settle their feud with Spaulding. The counsel for the latter reserved their defense, and the case was sent to the grand jury that meets next October, the bond being placed at \$2,000. This bond was promptly filled and Spaulding was released.

This unfortunate affair has caused considerable excitement, and much sympathy is expressed for the relatives both of the deceased and of Spaulding. Until after the trial in October it is not the place of a newspaper to comment upon or prejudice the case in any way.

#### Report of School Commissioner.

Number of districts in the County, 43.  
Number of Teachers employed, 53.  
Number of children of school age, 4,104.  
Enrollment: White male, 1529; female, 1270. Colored male, 70; female, 90; total, 2059.  
Number days attendance per pupil, 74.  
Average number of pupils attending each day, 1697.  
Per cent. of enrollment of enumeration, 72.  
Per cent. of average daily attendance of enrollment, 82.  
Number of volumes in School Libraries, 229.  
Value of School Libraries, \$88.00.  
Total receipt of funds for the year, ending June 30, 1894, \$19,102.87.  
Total expenditures for the same date, \$10,653.  
Cash on hand July 1, 1894, \$9,549.87.  
W. G. ARNOLD, Co. Com.

#### Got the Figures Mixed.

In giving the result of the primary for Benton, last week, we gave Mr. Marshall 126 and Mr. DeReign 35. It should have been the reverse. We also gave Mr. White 126, at Benton, when it was Mr. Heisserer who got 126 and Mr. White 43. We were a little rattled over the way Sikeston has of manufacturing voters.

Benton looked as if circuit were in session Tuesday.

The Bohnhardt forgery case was called at Jackson Monday and was continued.

Those whose unfortunate duty took them to the Layton inquest last Saturday had a little experience of how hungry it is possible to get between 6 o'clock a. m. and 7 o'clock p. m. They all expected to get home for a late dinner. Naturally, it was impossible to feed the crowd at a remote farm house, and when the said crowd got back as far as New Hamburg, they about cleared Joe Geisner out. Brick cheese, sausage, weinerwurst, bread and crackers were food for the gods to the famished travelers.

C. P. Pollard was in Benton on Tuesday and seemed to use his crutches in quite a natural way.

#### FROM ORAN.

"Tate" Query is very sick at this writing (Monday evening.)

Miss Annie Reichart will raffie off a nice quilt in the near future, the proceeds to go to the widows and orphans.

Thieves broke into Githens & Zundel's saloon, Metz's store and other places Monday night, taking the loose change from the drawers, a few pocket knives, etc. No big loss however.

Edward Tenz was arrested here Tuesday for breach of the peace.

Alex Juradini, a Syrian, gave magic lantern views of the Holy Land at the Baptist church last Sunday night. He is working for a mission in his country. He and his brother came to this country during the World's Fair and became converted to the Christian religion. It is curious that after 1800 years that people living in the country where Christianity had its origin are now dependant upon the people of this country for the means of salvation. The "Gates of Hell" have certainly prevailed against the church in that country.

Aunt Polly Berry came up from Morley Monday to visit her nephews and nieces, the Arterberry children. The old lady is very feeble, being 71 years old.

Attorney Keaton, of Bloomfield, was here Monday on business.

The Newsboy came to us Sunday evening not crowded with news. In this issue we expected the editor to spread himself, but he could only fill about half the usual space. The editor and I disagree largely as to how a paper should be run—which accounts for the phenomenal success of the Newsboy. The editor runs it to suit himself.

Misses Kettle and Adams, of the Cape, were here Friday last. Miss Kettle is quite a favorite of our young people.

Esq. J. Nutt and Hale were Tuesday evening trying cases.

Leslie Harris and Wm. Hill, of Morley, were here Tuesday on business.

J. F. Evans, of Blodgett, was in Benton Tuesday. He was feeling good over the election but bad over the melons. He was about worn out with running around trying to catch up with 50 per cent. of the money he had advanced on that elusive crop.

Benton now has a daily supply of fresh baker's bread from Head's bakery at Commerce. The weekly visit of a Cape butcher is also much appreciated. "The world do move."

Hon. Marsh Arnold and family returned from Washington to their Benton home Monday, and were heartily welcomed. Mr. Arnold looks in better health now he has got re-nominated and the tariff bill has ceased from troubling.

When you see a man get his melon returns, get out of the way. As likely as not the returns consist of a dun for part freight. Then the air is apt to get lurid and sulphurous and bad for your health and morals. Stand back and give the man a chance.

Look in your rainwater barrel.

Wiggletails, of course. That means mosquitos—and lots of 'em. Put a cloth or cover of some kind over the barrel, if you want to sleep o' nights.

Among the many who visited Kelso last Tuesday, was our old friend Chas. W. Stehr, now with the Bee Dry Goods and Clothing house, Cape Girardeau. Mr. Stehr is well and favorably known to our people, and has many friends in Scott county. So well known is he, in fact, that, although a married man, we noticed some of the young ladies address him as "Charlie." He is a nephew of Jacob Stehr, of New Hamburg.

George Ivory, the tramp shot while running from Constable Tanner, near Sikeston, has recovered so far as to be out and around. He was put in the calaboose for safe keeping, but on Friday morning of last week the cage was found empty and the bird gone.

Will Heisserer made a flying trip to White Springs Sunday.

#### FROM BLODGETT.

Miss Lillie Reddick went up to Jackson last Wednesday on a visit to relatives.

Marsh Adams went up to Commerce last Saturday on a business trip.

A preacher like Harry Contes might justly be termed a bird of prey. See?

The ladies of the Baptist church at Pleasant Valley held an ice-cream supper last Saturday night, and, of course, it was successful. The net proceeds amounted to \$15.85. Several of the Blodgett young folks went down and added their mites.

W. J. Potts was checked out as R. R. agent here last Tuesday and there reigned in his stead one Mr. T. L. Hunnicke, of Bertrand, an affable gentleman of long experience in the railroad business. Mr. Potts left Wednesday for a visit to relatives in New York City, his old home.

Miss Sarah Darnell paid Delta relatives a visit last Saturday and Sunday, thereby affecting the appetite of several of the Commercial Hotel boys—among them the scribe and his chum.

Barbers say that razors get tired. Probably that is because they are "strapped" so much. Course!

Who is this takes us by the hand And urges us to join his band, The Candidate.

Who is this singing all the day And like the lark would fly away, The Candidate.

Who is this covering his head The other man has beat, you bet, That Candidate.

C. W. Hawkins and Monroe Fulcher went to Charleston on a business trip Tuesday.

Mrs. Fannie Stubblefield returned Thursday from a visit to relatives at Commerce. She was accompanied by her aunt, Mrs. Wm. Wilburn, of Olive Branch, Ill.

Job must have been a physician for he had a great deal of patience. (Patented Jan. 1, 1894.)

We were talking lately with a special lady friend and the election subject came up. "Did you say they had elected all the officers?" "No, no, the Democrats have nominated some candidates." "Oh! That's it. They always nominate one, don't they?" "Always." "And he runs?" "He does." "And the other party lie about him and call him a horse-thief and a sinner?" "Exactly." "And there are meetings, fights, free beer and a general rumpus?" "Just so."

"And the man who is elected is abused and yelled at for two or four years more?" "He is." "Well, I won't get excited over the nominations. I'll just go home, milk the cows, sew a few more carpet rags and dry apples just the same as if nothing had happened. Good day."

Reed's big 25-cent show struck Blodgett last Friday. Considering the price it does very well and drew a large crowd. Some of their trained dogs exhibit so much intelligence that it wouldn't astonish us in the near future to find sausage that can talk.

The Ananias Club was sitting about a tie pile informally discussing things in general, and the Long Legged Liar happened to think of this: One time a very nice young lady visited here and on her return she happened to ask her mother if she did wrong to kiss a young man to whom she wasn't engaged. "Yes, my dear, very wrong." "Told whom?" "Why, Gilbert and Gene and Carl and Alf and Murray and Cole and Lucian and Martin and Gabe and Timon and Wash and—"

But ma had fallen on the floor in a trance. The Bald-headed Liar said that was very good and cited the following: I sat in the southbound passenger train yesterday behind a surly drummer. Along came Jack, the newsboy, and asked what line of goods he handled. In a very rude way the commercial traveler replied: "Brains." "Oh," says Jack. "Brains, you say. That must be nice—but its too bad the house don't give you some samples to carry along." About this time the M. W. L. awoke, pitched a 38-cal. cartridge into the fire and the mob lit for home.

#### THE KELSO FESTIVAL.

As Usual, Many Hundreds Were in Attendance.

Early Tuesday morning the people began to gather in Kelso, and by 9 o'clock a large crowd had gathered. At this hour the bells tolled and the masses flocked into the elegant church to partake of the services. High mass was conducted by Father Koob, of Oran, assisted by Father Kern, of Jackson, and Father Farlong, of New Madrid. During services Father Murray, president of St. Vincent's College, Cape Girardeau, delivered a masterly sermon in English.

After services the crowd assembled in the church and school yard, and everything had the appearance of a full-grown church festival. Refreshments of every kind were to be had, the usual amount of trinkets were to be raffled off and on every side one would be approached in pleading tones: "Take a ticket?"

The ladies of St. Augustine's church are noted for good cooking and splendid dinners. On this occasion they upheld their old reputation, quantity and quality alike being beyond criticism. Dinner at a Kelso Festival is always enjoyable, and was never more so than on Tuesday.

The most interesting contest was the gold-headed cane to be awarded to the most popular young man present. The contest opened at 3 o'clock and was closed at four. The names of L. Daemy, of Kelso, Wm. Bauman, of Cape Girardeau, and Mike Heisserer, of Benton, were in the contest. Early in the game Bauman withdrew his name, which left the contest between Daemy and Heisserer. Votes were ten cents each, and the two contestants were neck and neck until near the close. The vote stood Daemy, 444; Heisserer, 441; and it was announced that the vote would close in two minutes. Here Miss Maudie Elburn, of Cape Girardeau, was noticed gracefully moving toward the ticket stand and, like magic, Heisserer's check went up—up—up o' sight, and the vote closed—Heisserer, 652; Daemy, 449. Mike now struts about on a cane that brought \$10.20.

Capt. Schuchert's Opera Band furnished music during the entire day, and added much to the splendor of the occasion.

A stereopticon exhibition was given by Prof. T. Bowers in the evening, and those who were not at Chicago last year got a good idea of how things looked at the World's Fair.

The Scott county hog is having a lovely time, for sure. He revels up to the eyes in the most delicious watermelons—such a luxury as only a rich man in London or Paris could buy. The grunter enjoys it hugely. His rusty old bristles fall off and he takes unto himself a suit of softer texture. He fattens more rapidly if not as solidly as he would on corn. Horses, cattle and fowls also enjoy the glorious fruit with much zest. Verily, it is an ill wind that bloweth good to none of God's creatures.

Jas. Williams, of near Diehlstadt, gave Heisserer & Miller a mortgage on a corn crop he said he had on P. Ostner's land. He got goods on it to the tune of over \$25. On being communicated with Mr. Ostner reported the crop non-existent. A warrant was issued for Williams, but he had skipped before it could reach him.

The Cross Plains and Owensby's Schoolhouses open next Monday. John Hutson will teach the former and a Mr. Emmerson the latter.

The Benton school will open next Monday with Jno. Goodin, principal and Miss Mattie Seaford, assistant.

Heisserer & Miller have just received a large invoice of the famous Priesmeyer Shoes for ladies and children. Styles are neater, quality is better and prices are lower than ever before.

Wm. Reeder, Sr., is down with typhoid fever.

E. M. Kemp, who was cut in the head during a fracas in Compas' saloon Wednesday of last week, is still suffering severely from the effects of the blow.

#### Coroner, Public Administrator.

Dr. T. E. Tomlinson, of Morley, is the choice in the primary for Coroner. For Public Administrator, T. E. Joyce, of Richland, is the choice.

#### Township Officers and Central Committee Elected.

SULLY.  
Justices—J. L. Hale, L. D. Nutt, Constable—C. W. Emley.  
Central Committee—W. H. Stubbs, Alex. Wright, T. N. Myers, Morley.

Justices—J. W. Halley, E. L. Dotson, Constable—C. J. Boston.  
Committee—H. H. Daugherty, Sam Miller, V. L. Harris.

Justices—John Effert, Constable—Geo. Biles.  
Committee—Martin Edmonhardt, P. R. Williams, Moran Compas.

Justices—J. D. Paul, T. A. Regal, Constable—J. C. Barton.  
Committee—W. M. Jeffords, W. R. Sherr, M. Fulcher.

Justices—A. A. Harrison, J. W. Myers, Constable—C. L. Vaughn.  
Committee—Jas. P. Ramsey, Jasper Trotter, J. B. Green.

Justices—Ande. Schoen, J. R. Welch, Constable—Pete Schoen.  
Committee—Albert De Reig, Wm. Spaulding, John Westrich.

Justices—L. J. Watts, Geo. Christman, Constable—J. S. English.  
Committee—Thos. B. Dodge, C. N. Welch, A. L. Welch.

Committee—T. F. Frazier, W. W. Campbell, T. A. Matthews.

#### Murder at Lutesville.

Henry Billings and Will Smith, of Marble Hill, entered the Lutes restaurant at Lutesville last Saturday evening and called for a meal. While this was in progress, Billings drew a revolver and fatally shot his companion. Smith made an anti mortem statement to the effect that no quarrel had taken place, and the motive for the crime is a mystery. It may be remembered that these young men came through Benton with mules for sale the spring before last, and were mixed up in a fight at Blodgett the following day.

The Oran Barbecue.

The crowd was slow to gather at the Oran barbecue, last Wednesday, and at noon there were less than two hundred people on the grounds. Hons. Marsh Arnold and Albert DeReign were present and were expected to speak after dinner, but considered the crowd insufficient. By four o'clock the crowd began to gather, and by supper time everything was running under a full head of steam. The music was good, the meals were splendid, and everything was first-class.

#### Burglary at Diehlstadt.

The store of Jos. F. Watkins, of Diehlstadt, was burglarized last Tuesday night, and about one hundred dollars worth of pants, shirts, socks, cigars, etc., were carried away. Wednesday we met Mr. Watkins at Oran and, when asked if he had any clue to the thief, said: "Yes I am satisfied a fellow by the name of Will Stroder did it. The work was done from the inside. The entrance was effected through a rear window in the warehouse. The window was braced with a stick, which could only be removed from the inside. I noticed Stroder carry a small watermelon back there last evening, and wondered what he wanted to carry a melon way back there for. It was then that he removed the stick. Stroder is missing and I was told that he had come to Oran to run some kind of a gambling device at the picnic. I will telegraph home that he is not here. We have Sam Sanduse, Stroder's pal, under arrest, and will hold him until we get Stroder."

Misses Frances Stock and Addie Wylie have been visiting in Commerce this week.

Jesse R. Berry, of Commerce township, died on the 24th ult., aged 61 years. He was buried at Commerce on the 27th.

Misses Irma Houck, of Cape Girardeau, and Jessie Hunter, of New Madrid, were the guests of Mrs. Wm. Hunter early in the week.

#### FROM NEW HAMBURG.

After the severe snowstorm of Tuesday the 21st, an abundant rain fell, benefitting the corn, potatoes, pastures, nay, even all living creatures.

Hon. Albert De Reig, W. C. Lambert, Dr. Butler, Squire John R. Welch and Prof. Hood, of the Newsboy, were in town Saturday. Hon. De Reig, Lambert and Squire Welch were all smiles. See, these gents joined the Liederkrantz some time ago, and during the recent snowstorm ran like a chased fox. In future the Blodgett Ananias Club and Hamburg Liederkrantz will be important political factors in the political field of old Scott. Stick to 'em.

Louis Westrich is down with typhoid fever, but is reported convalescing.

Tom Moore, of the Cape, will open a general store at the Stike's old stand.

A. W. Dinsberger's sale was a non-success, and Adam concluded to remain here and continue the business.

Corn is king, and we will have an abundant crop this season.

Constantine Grojean had a fight with his hog, and came near losing a finger.

Miss Bertha Grojean has an attack of typhoid fever.

The Cape people are greatly interested in our town. The bakers and butchers send their wagons out weekly to furnish us with all sorts of bakery and meat supplies.

A few of our respected citizens formed a vigilance committee Tuesday evening, their object being to keep peace among the canine family, kill off the dogs that keep up a disturbing howl during the peaceful slumber of the night, remove the watermelon shells that are scattered all over town, and conduct themselves and compel others to do likewise, in the newest fashion and according to etiquette. This committee and the Liederkrantz will make our town one of the foremost places in Southeast Missouri.

#### Now Come Windmills.

Vincent Heisserer is about to put up at his homestead south of Benton a windmill of the Aermotor variety, with water tank, pipes, watering troughs and all the latest improvements. The mill is built of steel, and will pump water, grind feed, shell corn, etc. It will be about 100 feet high, and will be a landmark and ornament to the landscape. Once these useful and comparatively cheap servants to man are introduced here, we predict for them quite a popularity. They save as much in labor in a year or two as they cost the motive power costs absolutely nothing and they are a source of pleasure as well as of profit. Every enterprising farmer is sure to adopt them, as in times of drought they can be made invaluable. On the Illinois prairies, the first available money a farmer has usually goes to the purchase of a windmill.

#### Commerce vs. Charleston.

Commerce Riversiders defeated the Charleston Browns Wednesday to the tune of 13 to 2.

The battery work of Ancil and Lynch was the feature of the game—Ancil striking out 19 men and letting them down with but two hits—Charleston falling to score till the ninth inning, caused by errors on the Commerce side.

score.  
Innings—1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
Commerce, 0 5 0 0 1 0 7 0 0—13  
Charleston, 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2—2

About fifty ladies and gentlemen, of Charleston, came up for the purpose of shooting themselves horse for their favorites—but their turn never came.

#### FINE SHEEP FOR SALE.

I have a lot of fine Cotswold ewes for sale. I have 115 and give picking choice in lots of 20, at \$3.50. Apply to  
JULIE DUBRY,  
Lusk Farm, Kelso.

An adjourned term of county court meets next Monday. That body has some important duties to perform. We shall see what we shall see!